

Theorem provers for mathematicians

Scott Morrison
Australian National
University

Joint MBI/RSCS
Seminar

What is ... an interactive theorem prover?

```
theorem infinitude_of_primes (N : ℕ) : ∃ p ≥ N, prime p :=
begin
  use min_fac (fact N + 1),
  split,
  { by_contradiction h, simp at h,
    back, },
  back
end
```

```
-- We fix a prime number p
parameter (p : Prime)

structure perfectoid_ring (R : Type) [Huber_ring R] extends Tate_ring R : Prop :=
  (complete : is_complete_hausdorff R)
  (uniform : is_uniform R)
  (ramified : ∃ ω : pseudo_uniformizer R, ω^p | p in R^o)
  (Frobenius : surjective (Frob R^o/p))

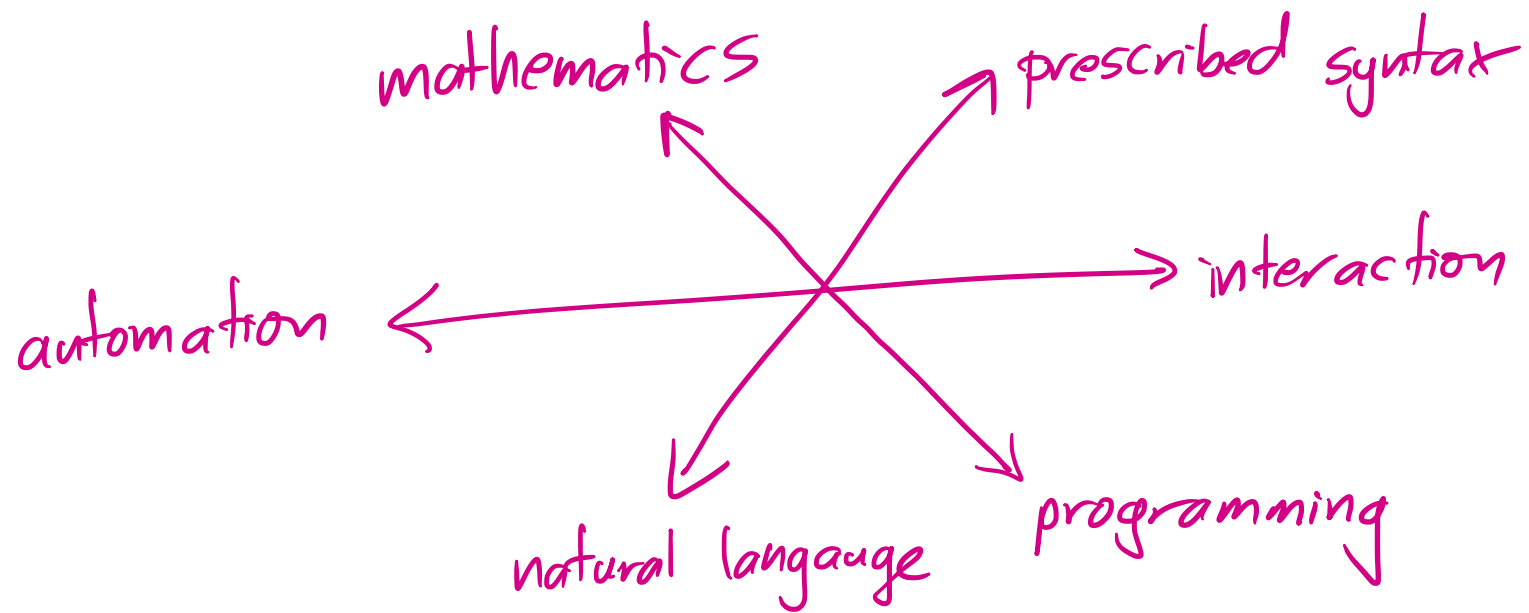
/-- Condition for an object of CLVRS to be perfectoid: every point should have an open
neighbourhood isomorphic to Spa(A) for some perfectoid ring A.-/
def is_perfectoid (X : CLVRS) : Prop :=
  ∀ x : X, ∃ (U : opens X) (A : Huber_pair) [perfectoid_ring A],
    (x ∈ U) ∧ (Spa A ≅ U)

/-- The category of perfectoid spaces.-/
def PerfectoidSpace := {X : CLVRS // is_perfectoid X}
```

(from Buzzard-Commelin-Massot "Lean perfectoid spaces")

Theorem provers

- use a variety of different logics
(ZF, higher order logic, dependent type theory, homotopy type theory)
- make different tradeoffs



There's a whole zoo of systems out there!

Isabelle/HOL, Lean, Coq, Agda, Liquid Haskell, Arend

Why?

- a 'proof crisis'?

(proofs not checked in refereeing?

instability in the literature due to incomplete publication?

perhaps even insufficient rigour?)

- deeper understanding?

- better mathematicians?

perhaps a dream for now, but just as
computer algebra systems have made us more capable,
interactive theorem provers with strong automation
and communicability will help us explore/construct proofs.

Why not?

- Sink effort into particular foundations/proof systems
 - obsolete!?
- It's hard.

On bad days, the computer is bafflingly obtuse.

- spell out pedantic details
- fight with the (dependent) type system
- slow verification
- express ideas 'unnaturally' to fit the logic
- "transport of structure" — a Faustian bargain

- Maybe it's too hard?

Examples

- The four-colour theorem (Gonthier et al) (1976/1997/2005)
& the Kepler conjecture (Hales et al) (1998/2015)
 - based on verified decision procedures to handle a big case bash!
- The odd order theorem (Gonthier et al) (1962/2012)
 - massive, but 'easy' (character theory...)
- The definition of a perfectoid space (Buzzard-Commelin-Massot) (2012/2019)
(from Scholze's Fields Medal work)
 - perhaps the conceptually deepest mathematics yet taught to the computer!

```

/-
Perfectoid Spaces

by Kevin Buzzard, Johan Commelin, and Patrick Massot

Definitions in this file follow Scholze's paper: Étale cohomology of diamonds,
specifically Definition 3.1 and 3.19
-/

```

```

structure perfectoid_ring (R : Type) [Huber_ring R] extends Tate_ring R : Prop :=
  (complete   : is_complete_hausdorff R)
  (uniform    : is_uniform R)
  (ramified   :  $\exists \varpi : \text{pseudo\_uniformizer } R, \varpi^p \mid p \text{ in } R^\circ$ )
  (Frobenius  : surjective (Frob  $R^\circ/p$ ))

/-
CLVRS ("complete locally valued ringed space") is a category
whose objects are topological spaces with a sheaf of complete topological rings
and an equivalence class of valuation on each stalk, whose support is the unique
maximal ideal of the stalk; in Wedhorn's notes this category is called  $\mathcal{V}$ .
A perfectoid space is an object of CLVRS which is locally isomorphic to  $\text{Spa}(A)$  with
 $A$  a perfectoid ring. Note however that CLVRS is a full subcategory of the category
`PreValuedRingedSpace` of topological spaces equipped with a presheaf of topological
rings and a valuation on each stalk, so the isomorphism can be checked in
PreValuedRingedSpace instead, which is what we do.
-/

/-- Condition for an object of CLVRS to be perfectoid: every point should have an open
neighbourhood isomorphic to  $\text{Spa}(A)$  for some perfectoid ring  $A$ . -/
def is_perfectoid (X : CLVRS) : Prop :=
   $\forall x : X, \exists (U : \text{opens } X) (A : \text{Huber\_pair}) [\text{perfectoid\_ring } A],$ 
   $(x \in U) \wedge (\text{Spa } A \cong U)$ 

/-- The category of perfectoid spaces. -/
def PerfectoidSpace := {X : CLVRS // is_perfectoid X}

```


Interaction & automation

```
def yoneda_long : C  $\Rightarrow$  ((Cop)  $\Rightarrow$  Type v1) :=
{ obj :=  $\lambda$  X,
  { obj :=  $\lambda$  Y, (unop Y)  $\rightarrow$  X,
    map :=  $\lambda$  Y Y' f g, f.unop  $\gg$  g,
    map_comp' := begin intros, ext1, dsimp, erw [category.assoc] end,
    map_id' := begin intros, ext1, dsimp, erw [category.id_comp] end },
  map :=  $\lambda$  X X' f,
    { app :=  $\lambda$  Y g, g  $\gg$  f,
      naturality' := begin intros, ext1, dsimp, simp end },
  map_comp' := begin intros, ext1, ext1, dsimp, simp end,
  map_id' := begin intros, ext1, ext1, dsimp, simp end }.
```

```
def yoneda_short : C  $\Rightarrow$  ((Cop)  $\Rightarrow$  Type v1) :=  $\lambda$  X,  $\lambda$  Y, (unop Y)  $\rightarrow$  X.
```

```
def yoneda_lemma : (yoneda_pairing C)  $\cong$  (yoneda_evaluation C) :=
{ hom := { app :=  $\lambda$  F x, ulift.up ((x.app F.1) (1 (unop F.1))) },
  inv := { app :=  $\lambda$  F x, { app :=  $\lambda$  X a, (F.2.map a.op) x.down } } }.
```


Outlook for mathematicians

- Theorem provers to help teach proof?
- Students are already using these tools

(Riesz representation theorem, combinatorial games,
CW complexes, braid groups)

- Initial uses in 'real maths' papers.
- Massive libraries to be built (Lean has Noetherian rings, but no holomorphic functions.)
- Lots of automation needed, but lots of low-hanging fruit.
- Collaboration between mathematicians, computers,
and computer scientists! (logicians, linguists, ...)